Nothing but superlatives of the highest order can do justice to the superb appearance of this group. Where each species exhibits a style of beauty peculiar to itself, and all are charming, any special reference to individual perfection would seem invidious.

Some, it is true, show a higher caste of beauty than do others, but none the less are they all graceful and fair to look upon. With slight modifications these remarks will also apply to the genus *Bulimus* in an adjoining case. This group is not so patrician in general appearance, but a large percentage of the species are sufficiently handsome to create a desire for possession in the heart of the collector.

Nor would this desire be lessened on his beholding, a few feet away, the grand display made by the genus *Achatina*, many species of which are quite large, symmetrical in form and radiant with color.

Following these, with an almost complete complement of species, are still many families belonging to the *Pulmonata*.

Among this number, the best known are the *Achatinellidae*, the *Cylindrellidae*, *Pupidae*, *Succineidae* and *Auriculidae*.

All are rich in species especially interesting to the student, and possibly so to the casual observer; but lack of space prevents any further allusion to them at present. For the same reason but little reference can be made to the multitude of bivalves still unnoticed. These belong to the Class Pelecypoda, and are chiefly marine. Among the most beautiful of the genera are the *Tellina*, *Cytherea*, *Tapes*, *Cardium*, *Trigonia*, *Spondylus* and *Pecten*. These are the queens of the Class, though many other genera are endowed with species but little inferior either in form or color.

Few, however, can rival the regal beauty of *Tellina radiata*, *Cytherea cryeina*, *Tapes literata*, *Cardium pseudolima*, *Trigonia margaritifera*, *Spondylus princeps*, *Pecten pallium* and other species gracing their respective genera. All gems, rare gems from ocean sands and caves

> "Where the foot treadeth not, nor the eye may scan;
> Deep, deep from the haunts and the homes of man."

Philadelphia, October, 1890.

NOTES ON BULIMULUS DORMANI W. G. B.

BY CHARLES T. SIMPSON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

In the Oct. NAUTILUS Mr. Berlin H. Wright separates a form of *Bulimulus Dormani* from the type, calling it var. albida, and

makes the sweeping assertion that "*it is never found associated with the typical.*"

Such a statement is a very strong one, and would indicate either that the writer was thoroughly familiar with every locality in which the shell was found, or that others had searched over its entire area of distribution, and that all the facts regarding it were known. Such an amount of knowledge is scarcely possessed concerning any mollusk I know of. It is hardly safe to say with certainty that any shell of the later Tertiaries is extinct, that a species is never found outside of a given locality, or only under certain conditions, or that one form may not connect with another, because the army of lynx-eyed collectors at work now are creating continual surprises in such matters, bringing the dead to life and finding forms in just the places and under just the circumstances that other persons have said they could not.

While living at Braidentown, Florida, I found Bulimulus Dormani quite abundant, living and dead, in heavy hammock lands north of the Manatee River, and with the typical form, *on the very same trees*, I found quite a number of specimens without a vestige of color! The ground of most of these shells was a lovely pale porcelain, the spots were usually reddish brown, sometimes forming uninterrupted bands somewhat clouded, or more or less distinct; and between these and the unicolored shells, there was almost every variation. Some of the specimens were a uniform horn color, others a waxen or porcelain tint. There was also quite a range of variation in size and solidity; some shells measuring one and a fourth inches in length, others that I believed to be adult were not over three fourths of an inch long; some were quite solid for so frail a species, and others so fragile that they could be blown to fragments with the breath, and it was next to impossible to collect or handle the latter. Many of these were quite inflated, others attenuated, and I am inclined to believe that *B. marielinus* is only a dwarf, elongated form of this same shell.

In the collection of the U. S. Nat. Museum, there are a couple of shells (No. 29612) collected by W. W. Calkins, with only Florida given as a locality, and labelled *Bulimulus Floridanus* Pfr. These agree quite well with the figures of that species (448) in Binney's Manual of North American Land Shells, p. 407. The texture is more solid than *B. Dormani* or *Marielinus* as I have seen them, the whorls are somewhat convex, the last sub-angulated below the mid-

dle, the columella and aperture agree fairly well with the description, but the color is a uniform brownish buff, darker slightly on the base. They are close to certain unicolored forms of *B. virgulatus*, Rve. of the West Indies, and certainly seem different from anything I have seen bearing the name of *Dormani*, *Marielinus* or *Floridanus*. Mr. Calkins collected several years in Florida for the Chicago Acad. Nat. Sciences, published a catalogue of Florida shells and furnished a good deal of material for the Nat. Museum, and his localities seem to be reasonably accurate. I may remark in passing that *B. stramineus* Guild., of the Isle of St. Vincent, is extremely close to the unicolored forms of *Bulimulus Dormani*.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF ANCTUS.

BY JOHN FORD.

Anctus Pilsbryi, Ford, N. Sp.

Shell rimate-umbilicated, ovate-conical, spire acute, apex black; whorls 7, slightly convex, the last somewhat constricted near the base. Aperture extremely narrow, oblong; lip flatly reflected, the central portion for about two-thirds of its length provided with a flange extending toward the inner or columellar lip from which proceeds a corresponding convexity thus giving to the aperture a form much like the traditional key hole. Color light gray, painted longitudinally with brownish and black lines.

Length of shell 23, length of aperture 12, width between flanges 1 mill, width of flange on outer lip 2 mill. Color of lip white.

Habitat Brazil.

Anctus angiostoma and *A. Pilsbryi* are the only living species of the subgenus known and they are in some respects very much alike. In the former, however, the apex is not black and shining nor are the apertures at all alike, save in general outline. Indeed that of *A. Pilsbryi* is absolutely distinct from any other known to the writer. This alone would justify its specific separation, and it will be a miracle perhaps if a form so peculiar does not appeal to the genus makers as well.[1]

Phila. Pa., Oct. 13th, 1890.

[1] The above description is chiefly drawn from memory, as the shell was unfortunately mislaid before the less salient features were thoroughly verified. It can be understood, however, that all of the characters given above are approximately correct.